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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/595,341	04/11/2006	Markus Gimbel	21334-1567	7869
29450	7590	10/10/2007		
BARLEY SNYDER, LLC 1000 WESTLAKES DRIVE, SUITE 275 BERWYN, PA 19312			EXAMINER LE, THANH TAM T	
			ART UNIT 2839	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 10/10/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

berwynipdocket@barley.com
hsalamone@barley.com
sanastasi@barley.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/595,341

Applicant(s)

GIMBEL ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh-Tam T. Le

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 August 2007.

2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.

2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 13-20 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 April 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/31/06.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election

1. Applicant's election filed on 8/10/07 is acknowledged. Claims 1-5 and 13-20 are examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

3. Claims 1-5 and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Bach et al. (6,780,046).

Bach et al., figures 1 and 2a show a foil holder (11) for fixing an electrical connector (not labeled) to a foil cable (1b) comprising at least one conductive line (not labeled), the foil holder being configured such that a contact housing (a FIGURE A below), which comprises at least one contact element (5) for electrically contacting the conductive line (figure 1), may be assembled on the foil holder such that the contact element abuts the conductive line in a contact region.

Regarding claim 2, at least one aperture (an opening between 8a, figure 2a), through which the conductive line may be contacted by the at least one contact element.

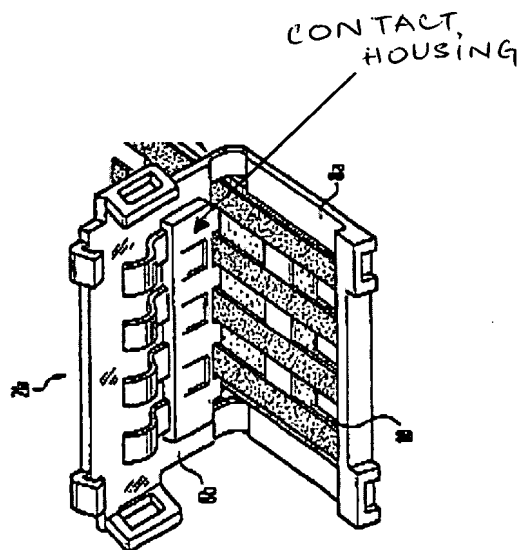
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Regarding claim 3, the foil holder comprises two half-shells (8a and 8b, figure 2a), between which the foil cable may be at least partially received.

Regarding claim 4, the two half-shells of the foil holder are connected by a hinge connection (at 11, figure 2a), such that the two half-shells may be folded in order to fit together.

Regarding claim 5, the hinge connection has an axis of rotation that extends in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the foil cable.

Regarding claims 13-16, the features in the method claims are identical to those in the apparatus claims; therefore, the method for assembling an electrical component on a foil cable alone is not a patentable feature.

FIGURE A

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hudson, Jr. et al. (4,068,912).

Regarding claim 17, Hudson, Jr. et al., figures 1 and 3 show a foil holder (14) for fixing an electrical connector (10) to a foil cable (16) comprising at least one conductive line (18), the foil holder comprising:

two half-shells (24 and 26), between which the foil cable may be at least partially received;

at least one aperture (38), through which the conductive line may be contacted by at least one contact element (12);

assembly recesses (52) located along sides of the two half shells for receiving, in a pre-assembled position, respective projections (78) of a retaining clip (76) formed on a contact housing of the electrical connector, the contact housing being movable from the pre-assembled position into the final, assembled position, in a direction parallel to a plane defined by the foil cable.

Regarding claim 18, wherein the contact housing, which comprises the at least one contact element for electrically contacting the conductive line, may be assembled on the foil holder such that the contact element abuts the conductive line in a contact region.

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Regarding claim 19, a hinge connection (28) between the two half-shells, such that the two half-shells may be folded in order to fit together.

Regarding claim 20, the hinge connection has an axis of rotation that extends in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the foil cable.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-2094. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.
6. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Thanh-Tam T. Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

TL.
9/27/07.